

REMARKS

This application, as amended herein, contains claims 1-8, 11-21, 23, 26-34, 37-39, 42-44, and 47-56. Claims 9, 10, 22, 24, 25, 35, 40, and 45 have been canceled herein and claims 36, 41, and 46 were previously canceled.

With regard to the substantive rejections based on prior art, the applicants note with thanks and appreciation the Examiner's indication of the allowable nature of claims 10, 25-26, 28-29, and 50-54. As more fully noted below, it is believed that this indication, and the amendments made here, provide a basis for allowance of all of the claims remaining in this application.

The provisional rejection of claims 1-35, 37-40, 42-45 and 47-56 based on double patenting is respectfully traversed. The claims have been amended to eliminate certain language that may have lead to this rejection. The discussion of the 35 U.S.C. 112 rejection below is specifically refereced with regard to the amendments made herein. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw this rejection.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 is respectfully traversed. Claims 7, 20, 33 and 34 are directed to computer readable media having computer code for causing a computer system to perform the methods set forth in the independent claims from which they depend. Claims of this type are now routinely issued by the USPTO. Although there is a "mixing of statutory classes" the claims are not in any way indefinite, and the Examiner has not otherwise

stated how they are indefinite. Thus, it is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn, as the rejection is not supported under currently regularly accepted procedures in the USPTO.

The rejection under 35 U.S.C. 112, cited in paragraph 19 of the office action is now moot. The language cited by the Examiner has been cancelled from the claims. With regard to the remaining rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112, claim 2 has been amended, claim 24 has been cancelled, claim 11 has been amended, and the language cited by the Examiner has been removed from claims 15, 17 and 18. it is thus submitted that all of the claims are now definite within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph.

With regard to the substantive rejections based on prior art, the applicants again note with thanks and appreciation the Examiner's indication of the allowable nature of claims 10, 25-26, 28-29, and 50-54. By amendment herein, the recitations of claim 10 have been included in claim 1. The recitations of claim 25 have been included in independent claim 21. Further, it is noted that independent claims 17, 18 and 21 have been amended in a manner analogous to the amendments made to independent 21, and are therefore also directed to patentable subject matter.

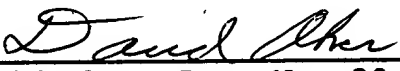
The remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims discussed above. These claims recite further elements, which in combination with the elements from which they depend, are not disclosed or suggested in the art of

record. For the reasons set forth above with respect to the independent claim from which they depend, it is submitted that these claims are also directed to patentable subject matter.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to resolve any remaining issues.

A request for an extension of time of three months for the filing of this paper is respectfully requested. A check in the amount of \$1,020 to cover the required fee is submitted herewith.

Respectfully submitted,



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